

I am in favor of retaining a minimum of 5 WPM code requirement for obtaining an Amateur License above the Technician class. 1)The Amateur Radio license must never become as easy to obtain as the CB license(?). 2)Morse code while considered ancient in technology is still an extremely reliable means of communications when all power is out, and the band conditions are bad. A minimum ability to send and receive code could make it possible to send an urgent message. 3) Being able to build a simple radio from spare parts should be stressed in all licenses above Technician. It used to be a requirement to be able to draw a simple oscillator circuit, even for a Novice class license. I beleive that requirement should be reintroduced into the new exam format. 4) Amateur radio will continue to progress and evolve (as it should), especially in the digital/computer modes. These modes take more power than a few batteries can provide however, and may be worthless in a true emergency.